

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CUSTOMERS OF FOREST GROVE LIGHT & POWER WHO HAVE INSTALLED CO-GENERATION SYSTEMS

HOW TO READ THE CITY'S "NET METER" IN ORDER TO UNDERSTAND WHAT EACH DISPLAY MEANS:

On the outside of your home, where your old electric meter used to be, we have installed a new, electronic bi-directional electric meter. This meter has 4 displays that continually cycle or rotate 24 hours a day. The digital display will show one of the 4 abbreviations below, just to the left of the numbers, which identifies which quantity is being shown.

The following are the **4 displays** in the order in which you will see them rotate:

1. **88888**: This display signals the beginning of the rotation cycle. It indicates that the display sequence is about to start.
2. **NE**: NE stands for "NET". This is the display that the meter reader reads monthly, and that your monthly bill is based upon. This display also shows the total amount of power, in kWh, that you have purchased from the power company, **minus** any power that your Co-Gen system has delivered back to the power company.
3. **DE**: DE stands for "DELIVERED". It shows the total amount of power, in kWh, to date that has been delivered to your home from the power company since the date the meter was installed. It **does not** reflect any power that your system may have delivered back to the power company.
4. **RE**: RE stands for "RECEIVED". This fourth and final display shows the total amount of power, in kWh, that your system has delivered back to the power company.

Please Note: The "NET" display equals the "DELIVERED" display minus the "RECEIVED" display.

Or written as an equation: $NE = DE - RE$.

The **only** display that the **meter reader records** is the "NET" or NE display. *This is the only quantity that is used to calculate your monthly electric bill* and ensures that any power your Co-Gen system delivers back to the City is fully credited to you at our normal billing rate. The second and third displays (DE & RE) are only shown for the benefit of those who may be interested in this information, such as the homeowner or the contractor who installed the system.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION ABOUT CO-GEN SYSTEMS

Most residential Co-Gen systems are designed so that the electricity that they produce is used within the home to replace power that would have been purchased from the power company. The Co-Gen system generates electricity back to the power company only when it is able to supply all the electrical needs within the residence and still have an excess generation capacity.

There is a kWh display on your inverter that shows the total amount of power that has been generated since the unit was installed. This doesn't indicate where the power went (for example whether the power was used within the home, or sold back to the power company), it only shows the total kWh your system has generated. Also, the kWh shown here is power that would have been purchased from the power company if you didn't have your Co-Gen system.

During an actual power outage, your Co-Gen system is designed to shut itself off immediately. The Co-Gen system will only function when the electricity from the electric utility is in a "normal" condition. This immediate shutdown is required by the National Electric Code (NEC) and also by your local electric utility's regulations. The reason for the immediate shutdown rule is that a severe safety hazard can exist if an independent generation system attempted to back feed electricity onto a temporarily inoperative distribution system. Serious injury or death could result when utility repairmen, linemen, first responders, emergency workers, and even the general public might come in contact with downed power lines that were not expected to be energized.

Please feel free to contact Forest Grove Light & Power @ (503) 992-3250, Monday -- Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. if you have any questions.